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"The Electrointegrator -- An Outstanding Attainment of Soviet Science"

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Even in times past, scientists noted a very important feature in nature, many processes, apparently completely different, obey one and the same law, for example, the flow of water in pipes, of an electrical current in conductors, and the exchange of heat from a heated body to a cold one. The speed of waterflow depends upon the pressure difference at the ends of a tube, the current strength upon the potential difference at the ends of a conductor, and heat exchange upon temperature difference. All remaining conditions governing the course of these processes are also similar.

The laws obeyed by various processes in nature are very complex.

They are expressed mathematically in the form of so-called differential equations. Scientists and designers can now set up differential equations of any known process in nature or, as they say, describe these processes mathematically.

What, apparently, is in common between the motions of celestial bodies and a rolling ship at sea? Both these phenomena are mathematically described by one and the same equation.

"The unity of nature - wrote V. I. Lenin in his famous book "Materialism and Empirio-Criticism" - appears in the marvelous similarity of differential equations which are concerned with different fields of phenomena."

Such is the most common or general content of the law of similarity of physical phenomena existing in nature. This law serves as the basis for the development of the theory of modeling which is very important in technology these days.

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In planning various structures the designer generally conducts preliminary experiments on models. Miniature ships float and "undergo trials" at experimental basins and carefully carved models of airplanes shake in a strong air current inside anaerodynamic tube etc.

Each such experiment requires tremendous expenditures of time and strength. In order to find the most useful variant in design, it is necessary to make 20 to 50 models and each of them are carefully investigated. And all such solutions found cannot be considered the very best. Indeed, an infinite number of possible variants remain unstudied. Moreover, such modeling does not yield accurate data, and occasionally even distorts the phenomenon studied. Very often, the modeling turns out to be generally impossible, and then trial designs must be constructed.

It would be possible, of course, not to construct a model but to describe the studied process mathematically, that is, to set up its differential equation. In this case the solution would be absolutely accurate. But then such enormous calculations would be required that it would take many months. Moreover, the great majority of these equations cannot be subjected to practical calculations.

All these causes compelled researchers to concentrate their attention on an experimental study of those natural processes that interest them; that is, to create simpler and handier models of the objects studied.

And then the above-mentioned law of similarity of physical processes suggested to scientists a new idea; is it not possible to study all processes by electrical models? All the elements of an electrical circuit - capacitor, coil and rheostat-are inexpensive and can be utilized with a very great degree of accuracy. Electrotechnology pre
***Concesses** very complete devices and methods for the measurement of electrical quantities. An electrical quantity A, by the employment of the law of similarity in dimensional analysis and definite coefficients, and easily be transferred into numerical quantities in any other field of physics (Figure 1, in the Annex).

Investigations have shown that the method of electrical modeling is completely possible and its accuracy is sufficiently high. The investigator in a number of cases quickly obtains the solution of very complicated differential equations.

The Soviet scientist Prof. L. I. Gutenmakher had already in 1939 designed on this principle a completely new unusual machine - the electrointegrator. It makes alled "clever", "scientific", "thinking" - unknown to he completely new unusual machine - unknown to he completely many by the machine between

In this machine one can study both the stresses in an airplane propeller and the temperature stresses during the tempering of metallic items of complex design, and also the infiltration of water into the ground under a dam and many other processes; therefore it has been called "universal".

In order to construct an electrical model of an object or structure, in which there takes place a process of interest to us, first of all one divides it on the plan into a great number of separate individual smaller objects (Figure 2). For example, a propeller is obtained or the dam is constructed out of imaginary small bricks. Each such cube, whose physical properties are previously known by us is replaced by a small electrical circuit. The complete electrical scheme, or total circuit, which unites these separate unit circuits, will be the full model of nature. The geometrical similarity between nature and model is preserved without fails the length of each facet of nature corresponds strictly to a definite quantity in the original electrical circuits in the model. In the electrointegrator the whole set of such circuits is disposed in the form of a large network, and to the electrical model are connected the necessary meshes of a circuit which form in it the "volume" of the model. Such a mesh can be a model of small cement cubes studied for heat conductivity or metal cubes studied for mechanical stresses, or earth cubes studied for the infiltration of water. In each of these cases the law governing

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the movement of current in the model must reflect also the passage of heat or the stresses arising in a metal or, finally, the movement of water in the ground. As we have already said, the electrical circuit consists of an assembly of various capacitors, coils, and resistors. The investigator, by employing the law of similarity, has only to reduce the physical properties known to him, of the natural material, into electrical unit's in order that all the meshes of the model be quickly "built into" the electrointegrator. In this manner one will observe not only geometrical but also internal, "qualitative" similarity between nature and model.

In engineering and construction practice, it is very often necessary to select the most useful form of the detail or the temperature regime, or the dimensions of the structure. With the sid of the electrointegrator one can very mexperiment with a great number of design variants. To do this it is sufficient merely to "vary" the geometrical dimensions of the model, switching in or out the corresponding meshes in the network of the electrointegrator, or to "substitute" one material for producing nature by others, for which it is necessary merely to vary the character of the current flowing in the model according to the properties of the new material.

The Electrointegrator EI-11 has the shape of a long common with a massive vertical panel (Figure 4). The engineer conducting the investigation must know how to set up the differential equations of the process under study, to find a number of so-called "initial" and "boundary" conditions. Then, with the aid of conversion coefficients, he passes over to electrical quantities and inserts the model into the network of the electrointegrator. On the horisontal panel the investigator assigns conditions for the studied process and on the vertical one he traces out the geometrical contour of nature and matches suitable conditions for the "internal" similarity of the model with nature. "Tests" on the model and on a great number of its variants are conducted in a short time.

It only remains for the investigator to take down the readings from the various devices and, according to the given points, to make diagrams of the necessary curves which are the "solutions" of the differential equations, a great number of which are practically impossible to solve by ordinary methods.

Now we shall discuss several examples of the use of the electro-integrator.

How are the internal stresses in the air sorew of an airplane distributed at the time of operation? Previously it was necessary to make models and then test them on stands to obtain not very accurate experimental data. The trials of one model took much time and it is natural that in his search for the best possible sample the designer could study only a few variants.

The integrator "studies" the first model rather accurately for 4 hours, and each succeeding variant is studied for 1 hour (since it is necessary to vary only partially the form of the model). Consequently, in 2 years on an electrointegrator one can "test" about 6000 variants instead of the 20 to 30 by the old method: The new propeller will therefore be many times better.

The employment of the electrointegrator for planning water dams and for investigating various processes in them can elso give tremendous advantage in time and quality. Designers, for example, are very much interested in the temperature regime of a dam, the possibility of dangerous cracks arising during the contraction or expansion of the concrete in the time of transition from low winter temperatures to high summer case. The dam is a very complicated structure and the distribution of temperature stresses in it depends upon the form of its various parts. The equations and boundary conditions of this heat process are so difficult - that designers almost cannot solve them, but by simplifying the problem they have

obtained approximate solutions. Therefore the so-called temperature joints are arranged inaccurately; this could lead to the formation of oracks and, under the pressure of water, to destruction.

On the electrointegrator one can solve with sufficient accuracy this problem for any number of variants of the dam; on each variant a half day is generally expended.

And just as important to study is the process of filtration of water in the ground under a dam, since this process can lead to the water in the ground under a dam, since this process can lead to the water in the ground the bottom or foundation and even to the destruction of the entire structure. In order to divert water to great depths in the Earth's layers, a concrete wall or channel is erected in front of the underground path of the water's movement. Thus the gound under the dam preserves its density. The size of the channel is calculated by solving the corresponding differential equation. The calculation of each variant requires intense effort with the aid of calculating machines. The electrointegrator speeds up the calculation so much that 20 to 30 variants can be investigated in but several days.

Still more marvelous are the results of using the electrointegrator in the investigation of oil strata. How does one find the distribution of pressure in new oil strata? Where should the wells be drilled? How should these wells be arranged in the most advantageous way so that all the petroleum is extracted from the beds. How should they be arranged so that the wells will not disturb one another. Indeed it often happens that in the exploitation of a new well an old well unexpectedly dries up or the flow of oil through an old well is decreased by an amount equal to what the new well yields, which is obviously very impractical.

Previously, new strata were drilled on the basis of approximate calculations. A well would be drilled and then it was observed what could be obtained from it. After that another well was drilled. Indeed the cost of drilling each well is evaluated at half a million rubles. However, there was no other way. True, one could set up differential equations describing the distribution of oil pressure in the beds. Their solutions could give the answer to these interesting problems. But a sufficiently

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accurate solution of one variant can take from 0.5 to 2 months, and it is necessary to carry out not less than 20 variants; that is, an accurate mathematical investigation of an oil bed involves about 3 years.

The electrointegrator can effect a revolution in this field. It solves the necessary differential equations in a few hours and the time of mathematical investigation is shortened from 5 years to 2-3 weeks! One can "answer" important questions of the petroleum worker; how much oil will the well yield in an hour; how much in a year, two years, five years? When will all the oil be exhausted from the well? etc.

The electrointegrator is necessary in the investigation of very complex processes in electrotechnology and thermal process in various precision or minute machines and in massive structures; in the solution of problems in construction under conditions of permafrost where there exists the danger of heaving and settling of structures; for designing foundation fills the construction of believe and for undergound operations by means of firely in the revenition of ground waters; for investigating various processes in metallurgy and in solving many other problems.

The great significance of this new invention was its valuable service to the Soviet people. The creators of the electrointegrator are doctor of technical sciences Prof. L. I. Gutenmakher and his very close co-worder and student candidate of technical sciences N. V. Korol'kov, director of the Institute of Automatics V. P. Lebedev, and director of the laboratory of this same Institute B. A. Volynskiy. In 1948 they were awarded the Stalin prize. The creative searches of Soviet scientists did not stop here. The group of co-workers at the laboratory of electromodeling at the Institute of Precise Mechanics and Calculating Techniques, USSR Academy of Sciences, under the direction of Prof. L. I. Gutenmakher have worked on and constructed a new type of electrointegrator ELI-11 (Figure 5), which "solves" a new group of differential equations.

Here it is not necessary to observe geometric similarity; the investigation operates only with differential equations. While varying the values of the various coefficients of the equation, he does not lower his eyes from the small fronted screen, on which a bright green "snake" slowly moves; this trace represents the graphical characteristics of the process under study. It is no longer necessary here to take down readings from various devices and to place them on paper in order to obtain the necessary curve; it creates itself. The investigator forces his way through a mass of variants without expending a minute on tedious calculations unavoidable in other cases. He finds, immeasurably faster, a variant of the solution. This solution is much more complete, because it is the result of an enormous, previously unthinkable, number of "experiments". The investigator himself becomes an original inspired creator; his attention is not diverted and is not fatigued by now unnecessary calculations.

In the new electrointogrator one can investigate very important dynamical processes. And again an advantage is obtained both in time and in quality.

Let us conceive, for example, such a problem as the testing of an airplane in longitudinal and tranverse oscillations. In view of the complexness of the process it would be necessary to study up to 1000 variants, but this can consume several years of persistent effort. On the electrointegrator of the new type the first variant is studied in 10 minutes and all the succeeding ones in 2 to 3 seconds; that is, 1000 variants would take now 5 to 6 days!

A very interesting instance is the study of automatic tracking systems which, for example, ensure the automatic turning of any mechanism after a moving pointer. It is necessary to shorten to a minimum the unavoidable oscillations during the turning of the mechanism and during its establishment in a new direction. It is required to find the most advantageous relation between the elements of the tracking system. Here it is completely solved by a number of investigated variants. On one variant three

days used to be expended previously; that is, 1000 variants would require about 8 years. No design bureau could expend that much time. It remained only to decrease the number of variants; that is, to lose knowingly in quality in order to shorten the time expended on calculation. The electrointegrator of the new type permits one to investigate 1000 variants not in 8 years but in only a few days!

The new electrointegrator for investigating dynamical processes, as designed by Prof. L. I. Gutenmakher and his co-workers, makes it possible to study also important physical processes such as torsional oscillations in the that of an airplane engine, the sutematic temperature regulation of the hot air blast in a blast furnace, the oscillations of various high atructures, the process governing the action of an autopilot in an airplane, etc.

Science in our country cutstrips the most glowing imagination. This is testified by the creation of the first electrointegrator in the world. Soviet scientists together with all the people are strengthening, by their brilliant works, the might of the socialist Fatherland and are hastening the movement of our country to communism.

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(Figures 1 to 5, with Captions, are in Annex)

(Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Eketerial System (Model)

Figure

Mechanical

Sample)



Figure (1) An electrical scheme of substitu-tion for a mechanical system (left) by an electrical system (right). The role of the exciting force E in the mechanical sys-tem is alayed by the source I of electric current; the spring is realeded by a coil L; and the damer M by a resistance Rrand the mass m of the mechanical system by a capacitor C.

Vertical namel of the ET-11 electrointegrator is made up of such mildle the magnitude of the resistance, which can be in three figures, is

Figure (4)

outline of arsteel

The general appearance of the EI-11 electrointegrator. The vertical makel consists of resistants (see Figure 3), which correspond to meshes in the network of the electrointegrator. The contour of the investigated object is "drawn" on it by a flexible cable, and with the aid of the resistance, the internal conditions of similarity between model and nature are solected. In this case, an investigation of thermal processes in rails during their annealing is being conducted. On the vertical panel is drawn one half of a rail, and it is symmetry). The resistance from model are so arranged that the current in each circuit flows according to the same law which heat obeys in an annealed rail.

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Figure () Caneral view of the HII-11 electrointegrator, A small screen is set up on the left inclined manel.

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